

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A hand-held device to inject for injecting solid materials into foods comprising:

a hollow sleeve, the sleeve including one or more features connected thereto to permit holding the device in a user's hands;

a penetrating tip on one end of the hollow sleeve;

the penetrating tip having a first closed position and a second open position with the open position allowing materials within the hollow sleeve to exit the hollow sleeve through the tip;
and

a piston which longitudinally moves within the hollow sleeve, the piston including a feature connected thereto to permit user operation of the piston by hand;

the piston forcing solid materials within the hollow sleeve to move the penetrating tip into the second open position to enable the solid materials to exit through the penetrating tip;

a biasing member urging movement of the piston away from proximity with the penetrating tip when the piston is positioned within the sleeve to move the penetrating tip into the second open position.

2. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1 wherein the sleeve features comprise finger holds projecting outwardly therefrom, and the piston feature comprises a flat end, where together the finger holds and flat end permit user movement of the piston within the sleeve is moved by manual pressure.

3. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1 wherein the penetrating tip comprises a segmented conical point.

4. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1 wherein the biasing member presses against a conical section within the sleeve.

5. (Original) The device of claim 1 wherein the sleeve has two different cross sections.
6. (Original) The device of claim 1 wherein the sleeve is divided into at least two separable sections.
7. (Original) The device of claim 6 wherein the sleeve may be separably divided without use of tools.
8. (Original) The device of claim 6 wherein the separable sections are connected with screw type threads.
9. (Withdrawn) A device to inject solid materials into foods comprising:
a hollow sleeve comprising a first diameter section and a second diameter section, wherein the first diameter section is smaller than the second diameter section;
a penetrating tip operatively connected to the first diameter section of the sleeve, wherein the penetrating tip includes a segmented feature that enables the tip to move from a first closed position to a second open position having, wherein in the second open position passage of the solid material through sleeve and tip is facilitated;
a piston positioned and longitudinally movable within the sleeve; and
a biasing member within the device to urge movement of the piston away from proximity with the penetrating tip.
10. (Withdrawn) The device as recited in claim 10 wherein the piston includes a first diameter second and a second diameter section, wherein the piston first diameter section is smaller than the second plunger second.
11. (Withdrawn) The device as recited in claim 10 wherein the sleeve first diameter section is separate from the sleeve second diameter section, and wherein the first and second diameters sections are removably connected together.
12. (Withdrawn) The device as recited in claim 11 wherein the sleeve first and second diameter sections are removably connected together by threaded means.

13. (Withdrawn) The device as recited in claim 10 wherein the sleeve first diameter section and second diameter section are both parts of a one-piece construction.
14. (Withdrawn) The device as recited in claim 10 wherein the sleeve includes a tapered section interposed between the first and second diameter sections.
15. (Withdrawn) The device as recited in claim 14 wherein the piston includes a first diameter section and a second diameter section, and wherein the sleeve tapered section has a diameter that is less than that of the piston second section.